

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached two (2) sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 4. A "Prior Art" legend has been added to Figure 1, and a typographical error has been corrected on Figure 4.

Attachment: Submittal of Drawing Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14 and 16-17 have been amended and claims 3, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 have been cancelled; no new matter has been added. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14 and 16-17 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figures 1 and 4 for certain informalities. The Applicant has corrected the noted informalities by adding a "Prior Art" legend to Figure 1 and by correcting a typographical error on Figure 4. The Applicant submits "formal" replacement sheets herewith. The Examiner's approval of the corrected drawings is respectfully requested.

3.) Examiner Objections - Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 6, 8, 12 and 14-18 for various informalities. The Applicants have corrected the noted formalities as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner's approval of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

4.) Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 9-12 and 15-18 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. The Applicants have amended the claims to correct the lack of antecedent bases noted by the Examiner. The Examiner's approval of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

5.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner stated that claims 3-5, 9-11 and 15-17 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under §112, paragraph 2, and to include the

limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

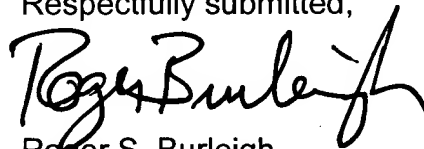
The Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 7 and 13 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 3, 9 and 15, respectively. Accordingly, claims 1, 7 and 13 are now allowable. Furthermore, whereas claims 2 and 4-5 are dependent from claim 1; claims 8 and 10-11 are dependent from claim 7; and claims 14 and 16-17 are dependent from claim 15, and include the limitations of their respective base claims, claims 2, 4-5, 8, 10-11, 14 and 16-17 are also now allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14 and 16-17.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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